

Working Group-The University as a Public Institution

Committee Meeting Minutes: October 26th, 2015

3:00pm-5:00pm RPL 325

Committee Members: Dr. Michael Rogers (Chair), Mayor Randy Horton, Mr. Kelly Davis, Emily Bradley, Kristy Bayer, Melissa Rose, Zachary Swartz, Bailey Taylor, Wendi Pool, Angela Bonds, and Dr. Sandy M. Smith Guests: Dr. Christine Austin (Associate Professor of College Student Personnel), Josh McMillian (Campus Safety), and Police Chief Jeff Humphrey; and Heath Whorton (University Emergency Manager)

Proceedings:

I. Updates

1. Two SPC Meetings
 - a. Honor Code
2. Brand & Identity Open Forum (10/19)
 - a. Honor Code
3. Ozark Open Forum (10/21)

II. Open Discussion with Chris Austin: Honor Code

- Instills academic integrity and cuts down on cheating; more than code of conduct as it requires a culture shift
 - Universities have code of academic conduct but not an honor code
- Two types of Honor Codes: Traditional and Modified
 - **Recommend ATU use modified where faculty are a part of it**
 - Administration, Board of Trustees, Faculty, Staff, and students need to all buy into the honor code.
 - Make code specific to Tech by tying in our traditions
- Must be student driven or will not work as they know best who is cheating
- Where would the honor code be housed and what would it look like?
 - Honor code system with a student conduct board with trained members
 - Need centralized record keeping body
 - Where to house it? Academic Affairs or Student Services?
Regardless, cannot just be added task of existing staff but requires new positions as staff of both already have too many responsibilities
 - Educate students first and then punishment later for repeat offenders
 - Instill traditions, community effort, materials with honor code, forums, reinforce code, honor code days, constant education
 - Could this be managed by Graduate Assistants? They would have access to student academic records
 - Should we notate transcripts of students who cheat? (ex. XF instead of just F)
- Looks good to employers
- Niche for ATU: Would make us the only BA, MA, EdD granting, public university in the state with an honor code

- Only other college or university with one in state is Lyons College, a private liberal arts school
- Do students want an honor code?
 - Surveys available through to investigate this question at the International Center for Academic Integrity (see <http://www.academicintegrity.org/icai/resources-4.php>)
- Option 2: If we are not able to implement honor code could we still have a central clearing house?
 - Clearing house is more administrative and less about changing culture
- Need to establish a greater level of academic integrity on campus

III. Discuss Governmental Relationships and Community Collaborations
 Josh McMillian (Public Safety), Heath Whorton (Public Safety) and Jeff Humphrey (Russellville Chief of Police)

- Strong and growing working relationship between RPD and ATU Public Safety
 - Dr. Bowen opened lines of communication with RPD
 - Russellville Police Dept. has been helping to update training but they still need more realistic training scenarios
 - Neither the Police Department nor Public Safety could handle a major event alone
 - Could have around 50 officers at Tech within 5 minutes, but anything that would need to be sustained over the long term would be difficult and require Tech, Russellville, County, and State officers working together
- Public Safety now offers more services
 - RPD and Public Safety work together as a team and occasionally respond to calls for each other.
 - Tech is a safe campus, isolation plays a role in this
 - Public Safety officers have received a significant amount of training.
 - Tech Public Safety now functions as a law enforcement office, handles calls without involving RPD.
 - Now able to train own officers in house so they can get certification
- Should we change the name of Public Safety to Campus Police?
 - Public Safety (name) makes students more comfortable and makes officers more approachable by students
- What does Public Safety need to get where they need to be?
 - Need more officers (currently have 18)
 - More personnel would allow Public Safety to provide more services
 - Better facility where there is a designated work area for officers
 - New building is in the drafting stage and will be considered more centrally located as Tech campus grows
 - New dispatch center will link Public Safety to Police Department
 - Need Community Officer hired to promote what public safety does
- Safety classes are offered for organizations on campus

- Campus-wide training will be offered in January for things like an active shooter situation
- Are all Tech students equally safe, even though some are located off campus?
 - Students are safest on campus; most students are victims off of campus
 - 10-13 Residence Hall checks every night
 - Have a bigger problem with students who are not Russellville natives
 - Students protect themselves better than the police by making smart choices
 - 400 cars in Russellville are broken into a year and 70% of these cars are unlocked
- Who evaluates Public Safety program?
 - Currently seeking program accreditation from ALEAP
 - Program currently meets minimum state standards
 - Projected accreditation completion is 2016-2017
- Current events have caused Public Safety to become more important
 - Parents want to know what campuses are considered the safest
 - There has been a cultural change
- New student body every 4 years gives Public Safety the opportunity to improve its image quickly.
- Need an emergency standard for buildings on campus, security assessment needs to be completed
- Tech landscaping is safe and meets safety standards, but we need the same standards set and met for buildings on campus
- Public Safety and students have been more involved in the community
 - Public Safety and ATU students supplement security for Fall Festival

IV. Discuss Emergency Planning

Heath Whorton (University Emergency Manager)

- 2 year process for initiatives and trainings to be fully implemented
- Building Manager Program
 - Managers will be someone who is stationary
 - Two managers per building on campus
 - Managers will go through training and be safety point of contact for Fire and Police in an emergency
 - Will provide information on building occupancy and utility location
- Need to be prepared for non-routine event
- Do we need new doors or door system?
- Doors need to be assessed individually in every building based on function
- Larger community's role in emergency management at ATU
 - The more prepared Russellville is the more prepared Tech will be
 - Outside professionals do come in to train people on campus
 - In works to train community as well as ATU members in future
- Need an Emergency Preparedness Kit

VII. Next Meeting: Nov. 2nd

Discuss Community Collaborations (Practical Activities): Economic- Questions 1-4